AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Previously Presented) A rectangular laminated floorboard for a patterned floating floor, the floorboard comprising:

opposing long edges, opposing short edges, a surface layer of laminate, and an underside parallel to the surface layer of laminate, the opposing long edges of the floorboard have a length not exceeding 80 cm. and the opposing short edges of the floorboard have a length not exceeding 10 cm;

integrated connectors along the opposing long edges of the floorboard and along the opposing short edges of the floorboard for locking together the floorboard with a second similar floorboard and a third similar floorboard, respectively;

wherein upper edge portions of the floorboard define a vertical plane when joined to a similar floorboard;

the connectors along the long edges of the floorboard are adapted for locking together the floorboard and the second floorboard in a horizontal direction, perpendicular to the vertical plane and in a vertical direction, perpendicular to a main plane of the floorboard;

the connectors along the short edges of the floorboard are adapted for locking together the floorboard and the third floorboard only in a horizontal direction, perpendicular to the vertical plane, such short edge connectors include:

a first short edge having a strip extending from the underside of the floorboard and a locking member projecting upwardly from the strip, wherein the strip and the locking member extend beyond the vertical plane; and

a second short edge having a groove on the underside arranged parallel to the second short edge, wherein no part of the second short edge extends beyond the vertical plane so as to enable the second short edge to be folded down vertically onto the strip of the first short edge so that the locking member fits into the underside groove to effect horizontal locking.

2. (Original) The floorboard as claimed in claim 1, wherein the connectors are adapted for locking together the floorboard and the second floorboard at least by means of inward angling, whereby the upper edge portions contact each other.

3. (Original) The floorboard as claimed in claim 2, wherein the connectors are adapted for releasing the floorboard and the second floorboard by means of upward angling, away from a sub-floor.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously Presented) The floorboard as claimed in claim 1, wherein the surface layer comprises a thermosetting resin.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Original) The floorboard as claimed in claim 1, wherein the connectors comprise a separate part which projects beyond the joint edge and which is mechanically joined with a core of the floorboard.

8. (Original) The floorboard as claimed in claim 1, wherein one of the edges opposing each other in pairs on the long edges of the floorboards includes a projecting locking element integrated with the floorboard, and an opposing one of the edges in the same pair includes a locking groove for receiving the locking element of an adjoining floorboard.

9. (Original) The floorboard as claimed in claim 1, wherein the surface of the floorboard has a decoration and a shape corresponding to a traditional parquet block with a length exceeding 15 cm. and a width exceeding 4 cm.

10. (Original) A patterned floating flooring having a pattern which is provided by respective shapes of floorboards constituting the patterned floating flooring, wherein the patterned floating flooring comprises a plurality of the floorboard claimed in claim 1.

11. (Original) The patterned floating flooring as claimed in claim 10, wherein the pattern is provided such that at least two of said floorboards are arranged such that at least one short edge of a first of the at least two floorboards is aligned with at least one short edge of a second of the at least two floorboards.

12. (Original) The patterned floating flooring as claimed in claim 10, wherein the pattern is provided such that the short edges of two floorboards, which are locked together along their respective long edges, are mutually displaced relative to each other.

13. (Original) A block of floorboards for providing a floating flooring, wherein the block comprises at least two floorboards as claimed in claim 1, the at least two floorboards being arranged such that at least one short edge of a first of the at least two floorboards is aligned with at least one short edge of a second of the at least two floorboards.

14. (Original) The block of floorboards as claimed in claim 13, wherein the block is square, such that a first edge of the block coincides with a long edge of one of the at least two floorboards and a second edge, which is perpendicular to the first edge, coincides with the short edges of the at least two floorboards.

15. (Previously Presented) A system of rectangular floorboards, wherein each of the floorboards comprises: a laminated surface layer and a core with two long sides and two short sides, for making a floating flooring, which floorboards are mechanically lockable and which along their four sides have pairs of opposing connectors for locking similar, adjoining floorboards to each other both vertically and horizontally wherein the long sides have a length not exceeding 80 cm and the short sides have a width not exceeding 10 cm; wherein

the connectors along the short edges of the floorboard are adapted for locking together the floorboard and a similar floorboard only in a horizontal direction, perpendicular to a vertical plane extending between upper edges of the floorboards when the floorboards are locked together, such short edge connectors include:

a first short edge having a strip extending from an underside of the floorboard and a locking member projecting upwardly from the strip, wherein the strip and the locking member extend beyond the vertical plane; and

a second short edge having a groove on the underside arranged parallel to the second short edge, wherein no part of the second short edge extends beyond the vertical plane so as to enable the second short edge to be folded down vertically onto the strip of the first short edge so that the locking member fits into the underside groove to effect horizontal locking.

16. (Original) The floorboards as claimed in claim 15, wherein the connectors of the floorboards on at least one long side or short side comprise a separate part which projects from an upper joint edge and which is mechanically joined with the core of the floorboard.

17. (Original) The floorboards as claimed in claim 15, wherein the surface layer is made of laminate with a length exceeding 15 cm. and a width exceeding 4 cm.

18. (Original) The floorboards as claimed in claim 15, wherein the surface layer of each of the floorboards has a decoration and a shape corresponding to a traditional parquet block with a length of 30-50 cm and a width of 5-8 cm.

19. (Original) The floorboards as claimed in claim 15, wherein the long sides can be joined by inward angling with upper joint edges in contact with each other.

20. (Original) The floorboards as claimed in claim 15, wherein the joint sides opposing each other in pairs on the long sides of the floorboards comprise a projecting locking element integrated with the floorboard, and the opposing side in the same pair comprises a locking groove for holding the locking element of an adjoining floorboard.

Claims 21-24 (Canceled)

25. (Previously Presented) A method for making a floor of mechanically locked rectangular floorboards joined in parallel rows with long sides and short sides, which floorboards along their four sides have pairs of opposing connectors for locking similar, adjoining floorboards both vertically and horizontally, the connectors of the floorboards being adapted so that two opposite joint edges on the long sides can be locked by inward angling, the method comprising:

placing a second floorboard in a second row at an angle to a first floorboard in a first row and contacting the same, by an upper joint edge, with a joint edge of the first floorboard,

locking a new floorboard in the second row to a short side of the second floorboard in the second row, so that the upper joint edge of the new floorboard contacts the joint edge of the first floorboard,

laterally displacing both the new and the second floorboard parallel with respect to the long side of the first floorboard,

the lateral displacement being longer than the length of the floorboards, and

angling down the second and the new floorboard after lateral displacement.

26. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 25, wherein the floorboards are laminate and have a length and the width that does not exceed 80 and 10 cm. respectively; wherein

the connectors along the short edges of the floorboard are adapted for locking together the floorboard and a similar floorboard only in a horizontal direction, perpendicular to a vertical plane extending between upper edges of the floorboards when the floorboards are locked together, such short edge connectors include:

a first short edge having a strip extending from an underside of the floorboard and a locking member projecting upwardly from the strip, wherein the strip and the locking member extend beyond the vertical plane; and

a second short edge having a groove on the underside arranged parallel to the second short edge, wherein no part of the second short edge extends beyond the vertical plane so as to enable the second short edge to be folded down vertically

onto the strip of the first short edge so that the locking member fits into the underside groove to effect horizontal locking.

27. (Original) A method for installing a flooring comprising a first and a second type of rectangular floorboards, each floorboard being provided, along opposing long edges and along opposing short edges, with integrated connectors for locking together the floorboard with a similar floorboard,

such that upper edge portions of the floorboard and the similar floorboard, in a joined state, together define a vertical plane,

whereby the connectors are adapted for locking together the floorboard and the similar floorboard in a horizontal direction, perpendicular to the vertical plane, and

whereby the connectors are adapted for locking together the floorboard and the similar floorboard in a vertical direction, perpendicular to a main plane of the floorboard,

whereby the long edges have a length which is an even multiple of a length of the short edges,

whereby the first type of floorboard, as compared with the second type of floorboard, is mirror-inverted with regard to the connectors, and

whereby the first and the second types of floorboard are joinable to each other long side against short side, short side against short side and long side against long side, the method being wherein the installation of the flooring comprises the step of joining by inwards angling, two respective, essentially identical short edges of two floorboards of the first type with a long edge of a floorboard of the second type.

28. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 27, further comprising joining the two floorboards of the first type with each other along their respective long edges prior to the inwards angling.

29. (Previously Presented) A flooring system comprising a first and a second type of rectangular floorboards, each floorboard comprising:

along opposing long edges and along opposing short edges, integrated connectors for locking together the floorboard with a similar floorboard, such that upper edge portions of the floorboard and the similar floorboard, in a joined state, together define a vertical plane,

whereby the connectors are adapted for locking together the floorboard and the similar floorboard in a horizontal direction, perpendicular to the vertical plane, and the connectors are adapted for locking together the floorboard and the similar floorboard in a vertical direction, perpendicular to a main plane of the floorboard,

the long edges have a length which is an even multiple of a length of the short edges,

the first type of floorboard, is mirror-inverted as compared with the second type of floorboard, with regard to the connectors, and

the first and the second types of floorboards are joinable to each other long side against short side, short side against short side and long side against long side.

30. (Original) The flooring system as claimed in claim 29, wherein the first and second types of floorboards are joinable by inward angling, whereby upper joint edges contact each other.

31. (Original) The flooring system as claimed in claim 29, wherein the floorboard has a surface layer comprising a thermosetting resin.

32. (Original) A flooring system comprising first and second types of rectangular floorboards, and third and fourth types of rectangular floorboards, each of the floorboards being provided, along opposing long edges and along opposing short edges, with integrated connectors for locking together the floorboard with a similar floorboard, such that upper edge portions of the floorboard and the similar floorboard, in a joined state, together define a vertical plane,

whereby the connectors are adapted for locking together the floorboard and the similar floorboard in a horizontal direction, perpendicular to the vertical plane, and

whereby the connectors are adapted for locking together the floorboard and the similar floorboard in a vertical direction, perpendicular to a main plane of the floorboard,

wherein the long edges have a length which is an even multiple of a length of the short edges,

a multiple of the first and second types of floorboards is smaller than a multiple of the third and the fourth types of floorboards,

the first type of floorboard and the third type of floorboard, as compared with the second type of floorboard and the fourth type of floorboard, respectively, are mirror-inverted with regard to the connectors, and

all of the first, second, third and fourth types of floorboards are joinable with each other long side against short side, short side against short side and long side against long side.

33. (Previously Presented) The floorboard as claimed in claim 1, wherein the integrated connectors comprise a separate part, which projects from at least one of the opposing long edges and which is mechanically joined with a core of the floorboard.

34. (Previously Presented) The floorboards as claimed in claim 15, further comprising a separate part, which projects from at least one of the long edges and which is mechanically joined with the core.

35. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 25, wherein the floorboards further comprise a separate part, which projects from at least one of the long edges and which is mechanically joined with the core.

36. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 27, wherein the integrated connectors comprise a separate part, which projects from at least one of the long edges and which is mechanically joined with the core.

37. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the integrated connectors comprise a separate part, which projects from at least one of the long edges and which is mechanically joined with a core of the floorboard.

38. (Previously Presented) The flooring system as claimed in claim 32, wherein the integrated connectors comprise a separate part, which projects from at least one of the long edges and which is mechanically joined with a core of the floorboard.

39. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 27, wherein the connectors comprise a tongue projecting from one of the opposing long edges and one of the opposing short edges of each type of floorboard, and a groove extending along the other opposing long edge and opposing short edge of each type of floorboard;

the first type of floorboard, as compared with the second type of floorboard, is mirror-inverted with regard to the connectors, such that when the first and second types of floorboards are positioned to extend parallel to and spaced from each other, and in a manner that the long edge of the first type of floorboard that is nearest a long edge of the second type of floorboard comprise the same connector, at least one short edge of the first type of floorboard having the same connector as one short edge of the second type of floor board can extend along a common line.

40. (Previously Presented) The flooring system as claimed in claim 29, wherein the opposing long edges of each type of floorboard include a first long edge

and second long edge, and the opposing short edges of each type of floorboard include a first short edge and second short edge;

the connectors comprise a tongue projecting from the first long edge and the first short edge of each type of floorboard, and a groove extending along the second long edge and the second short edge of each type of floorboard;

the first type of floorboard, is mirror-inverted as compared with the second type of floorboard, with regard to the connectors, such that on the first type of floorboard, the first long edge extends in a first direction toward the first short edge, and the first short edge extends in a second direction away from the first long edge;

on the second type of floorboard, the first long edge extends in the first direction toward the first short edge, and the first short edge extends in a third direction away from the first long edge; and

the second and third directions extend oppositely of each other.